

NEWCASTLE EMLYN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1970

To the Chairman and Members of the Newcastle Emlyn Urban District Council.

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1970 and to state that the health of the population continued to remain at a satisfactory level.

I wish to gratefully acknowledge the work carried out by my staff and to thank the Members of the Council for the wholehearted manner in which they have supported me. I also wish to thank my colleagues and their staff for their continued support and help.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ELFYN T. JONES,
Medical Officer of Health

OFFICIALS OF THE COUNCIL

Clerk and Chief Financial Officer – FRANCIS T. GEORGE, F.C.A., F.R.Econ.S.

Medical Officer of Health – Dr. ELFYN T. JONES, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
D.P.H. Official Address and telephone number: Public Health Department,
3 Spilman Street, Carmarthen. Carmarthen 5131.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector – W. J. GRIFFITHS.

Rating Officer – Miss S. A. M. DAVIES.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The Newcastle Emlyn Urban District Authority covers an area of 208 acres. The rateable value of the area is £33,757, the sum represented by a penny rate £130 and the number of inhabited houses 310. The estimated mid-year home population by the Registrar-General is 690.

Newcastle Emlyn is a market town situated in the Teifi Valley in north-west Carmarthenshire, and serves the needs of a scattered agricultural community living in the adjacent countryside including a part of South Cardiganshire and North Pembrokeshire. A milk products factory, glove factory, egg-grading station, omnibus depot, together with various shops and businesses provide employment for a number of the population. A branch railway line for goods traffic runs to the town. A secondary modern school and one primary school serves the town and the surrounding area. Excellent facilities are available for the marketing of animals and marts are held regularly. The town and the surrounding district continues to be a popular tourist and fisherman's resort, and during the holiday season there is a large influx of visitors to the area. A fair proportion of the residents have come to live here in retirement,

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS—There were nine live births (4 Males; 5 Females) during the year, and this gives a crude birth-rate of 13.0 per 1,000 of the population.

STILLBIRTHS: There were no still-births.

INFANT DEATHS: There were no infant deaths.

DEATHS (ALL AGES): Deaths during the year totalled sixteen (5 males; 11 females), giving a crude death rate of 23.2 per 1,000 population.

The causes of death were:—

Cause of Death	Sex	Total All Ages	Age in Years			
			45-54	55-64	65-74	75+
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	F	1	—	—	1	—
Other Malignant Neoplasm ..	F	1	1	—	—	—
Ischaemic Heart Disease ..	M	2	—	2	—	—
	F	4	—	1	—	3
Other forms of Heart Disease ..	M	1	—	1	—	—
Cerebrovascular Disease ..	M	2	—	—	2	—
Pneumonia	F	1	—	—	—	1
Asthma	F	1	1	—	—	—
Peptic Ulcer	F	1	—	—	—	1
Symptoms and Ill Defined Con- ditions	F	2	—	—	—	2
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	5	—	3	2	—
	F	11	2	1	1	7

PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Hospital, Laboratory and Ambulance facilities: The district is served mainly by the West Wales General Hospital, Carmarthen and Cardigan Hospital with provision for cases of infectious diseases at the West Wales Isolation Hospital, Upper Tumble, Nr. Llanelli. Cases of mental disease receive treatment at St. David's Hospital, Carmarthen. Clinics for the treatment of Venereal Diseases are held at the West Wales General Hospital, Glangwili, Carmarthen. Free treatment may be obtained at these Clinics under conditions of secrecy and confidence. The clinics are held as follows:—

Males and Females—First and third Friday in each month 2 p.m.—6 p.m.

Bacteriological and Pathological investigations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory and the Pathological Department at the West Wales General Hospital, Glangwili, Carmarthen, and the resources of these laboratories are always available to medical practitioners.

Ambulance facilities including facilities for the transport of sitting car cases, are under the control of the County Council.

Home Nursing Services: This service is undertaken by one district nurse in the direct employ of the County Council.

Child Health Clinic:

One child health clinic is held.

Ante-Natal Clinics:

No Ante-Natal Clinic has been established in the area.

The Care of Unmarried Mothers and their Children:

Arrangements are made for unmarried mothers to be admitted to one of the following hostels: – Northlands, Cardiff; Cwmdonkin Shelter, Swansea; The Llandaff Diocesan Moral Welfare Committee Hostel, Penarth or the St. Martin's Home, Hereford. These arrangements are made by the County Council and also the St. Davids Diocesan Moral Welfare Committee.

Chiropody Service:

A voluntary organisation has established a chiropody clinic in the town.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

It is pleasing to report that no cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year. The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year was 2 Respiratory Tuberculosis (1 Male; 1 Female).

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Statistics relating to vaccination and immunisation during the year for the County as a whole, given by the County Medical Officer of Health, are as follows:

(i) Smallpox

Age at date of Vaccination					Number Vaccinated	Number Revaccinated
Under 1 year	..	..	..	..	63	—
1 year	..	..	..	..	847	—
2 – 4 years	..	..	..	..	118	12
5 – 15 years	..	..	..	..	39	52

(ii) Vaccination of persons under 16

	Born 1970	Born 1969	Born 1968	Born 1967	Born '63-66	Others —16	Boosters
Triple Antigen	849	509	47	18	28	7	808
Diphtheria/Tetanus ..	5	7	1	1	11	6	474
Tetanus	1	1	2	1	14	93	172
Polio	872	507	61	22	34	11	629
Measles	3	119	123	81	132	23	—
Rubella	—	—	—	—	—	27	—

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948 and 1951

Section 47 of the 1948 Act – Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

It is pleasing to report that no case called for action to be taken by the Council during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

On the whole the town's water supply situation remained satisfactory, except for one period in the summer when deterioration in the supply was experienced due to the drought conditions which prevailed. There were no major leakages and minor ones, when they occurred, were attended to as expeditiously as possible. The public's co-operation in preventing water wastage is still essential with regard to household leakages.

Sewerage and Drainage

During the year progress was maintained in regard to house connections to the main sewer. Some properties however, still remain unconnected and it is hoped that these outstanding ones will be connected during the coming year, otherwise the Council will have no alternative but to take further action in the matter.

Scavenging and Rodent Control

The once weekly collection of refuse in the town operated satisfactorily. From 1st April, this service was undertaken by the Teifside Rural District Council following an agreement between the two Authorities. Facilities for the disposal of refuse were also provided by that Authority.

As in previous years cases of rat infestation, when they occurred, were dealt with by the Council's workmen under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT AND REGULATIONS

The Food and Drugs Authority for the area is the County Council. Mr. E. G. Nicholls, Chief Inspector of the County Council, reports as follows on work done during the year in the area of the Newcastle Emlyn Urban District under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and the various Regulations and Orders made thereunder:—

Total number of samples of foodstuffs and drugs submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis for compositional quality and purity	17
Informal samples of Milk tested for compositional quality by the Food and Drugs Inspectors	6
Milk samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Glangwili for bacteriological examination etc	20
Total	43

Milk samples submitted to the Public Analyst

Eight formal samples of Milk procured from milk-retailers were all reported by the Public Analyst to be genuine in compositional quality.

Informal samples of Milk

The six informal samples of milk, tested by the Food and Drugs Inspectors, were all found to be genuine in milk-fat and non-fatty-milk-solids content.

Miscellaneous Foodstuffs and Drugs

Of the nine samples submitted to the Public Analyst, seven were reported to be satisfactory in composition and to comply with the appropriate labelling requirements, whereas the following two samples of drugs were reported to be unsatisfactory:—

<i>Description of Sample</i>	<i>Nature of deficiency or irregularity</i>
Glycerin, Lemon and Honey Linctus	Declared to contain 0.085 % Lemon Oil, but none was isolated.
Sodium Chloride Eye Lotion	Did not comply with B.P.C. labelling requirements.

The manufacturers of these two unsatisfactory drugs were warned.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963 and 1965

Twenty samples of milk were taken from licensed milk-dealers and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Glangwili, for examination for bacteriological quality etc. The results of the tests carried out on these samples were as follows:—

Pasteurised Milk

Thirteen samples of Pasteurised Milk were taken and all of them were reported to have satisfied both the Phosphatase test for adequacy of heat-treatment and the Methylene Blue Test for bacteriological quality.

Untreated Milk

Satisfied the Methylene Blue Test	..	..	..	..	..	5
Failed the Methylene Blue Test	..	..	..	..	..	2
						—
						7
						—

The seven samples of Untreated Milk were also examined for the presence of *Brucella abortus*. Three of the samples gave positive results under the Brucella Ring test but *Brucella abortus* was not isolated in any of these samples under the following Culture test.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Record of visits for 1970:—,

General Sanitation

Nature of Visit or Inspection						No of Visits
Water Supplies	..	..	..	..	..	60
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	100
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	6
Public Conveniences	..	..	..	..	..	30
Refuse Collection	..	..	..	..	..	10
Rats and Mice	..	..	..	..	..	24
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	..	..	..	..	..	50

Housing

Under Housing and Public Health Acts

Number of houses inspected	..	..	..	30
Visits paid to above houses	..	..	..	50
Miscellaneous housing visits	..	..	..	3

Meat and Food Inspection

Inspection of Meat and Meat Shops

Number of slaughterhouses in area	..	..	1
Number of visits to the above slaughterhouse	..	..	260
Number of visits to Shops and Stalls	..	..	12
Number of visits to Butchers	..	..	25

Ice-Cream

Number of Ice-Cream Manufacturers in area	..	1
Number of Ice-Cream Retailers in area	..	6

The Food and Drugs Act, 1955

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

Occasional visits were made by the Public Health Inspector to various food premises in the town in order to maintain the highest possible standard of hygiene.

	<i>No. fitted to comply with Reg. 16</i>	<i>No. to which Reg. 19 applies</i>	<i>No. fitted to comply with Reg. 19</i>
Grocers' Shops (7)	7	7	7
Greengrocers' Shops (1)	—	1	—
Bakers' Shops (1)	1	1	1
Butchers' Shops (3)	3	3	3
Cafes (3)	3	3	3

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regs. 1963

No. of egg pasteurisation plants in the district—Nil

Foodstuffs condemned by the Public Health Inspector at Shops etc. (excluding the Slaughterhouse):—

Fruit and Meat Products—28 tins.

Condemned foodstuffs are disposed of by burial on the Refuse Disposal Site.

Poultry Processing Premises

No. of poultry processing premises in the district—Nil

Housing

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	25
Number of Inspections made for the purpose	27

Unfit Houses Closed

Under Sect. 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1) Housing Act, 1957 and Sect. 26 Housing Act, 1961 Nil

Unfit Houses made Fit:

After informal action by local Authority *By Owner*
.. Nil

Housing (Financial Provision) Act, 1958, as amended:

Housing (House Purchase and Housing Act) 1959:

Number of Applications for Discretionary Grants approved during the year .. 4

Number of Applications for Standard Grants approved during the year .. —

PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963

There is one private slaughterhouse operating in the area.

In accordance with the requirements of the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, all the animals slaughtered there have been inspected by the Public Health Inspector and the carcasses passed fit for human consumption have been marked with a distinguishing stamp.

During the year the following animals were examined:—

Number of Cattle (including cows)	..	..	2,204
Number of Calves	..	..	195
Number of Sheep and Lambs	..	..	2,416
Number of Pigs	..	..	648

Details of Meat Condemned at the Slaughterhouse:—

Quantity of bovine liver – distomatosis
2 whole sow carcasses.
2 whole cow carcasses.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Due to pressure of work, especially in regards to meat inspection duties, no inspections of premises under the above Act could be undertaken by the Public Health Inspector during the year.

Administration of the Factories Act, 1961: Duties of the Sanitary Authority under the Factories Acts have been carried out by the Public Health Inspector as part of his routine work, and a close liaison has been maintained with the District Inspector of Factories.

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	—	—	—	—
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	8	4	—	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	3	2	—	—
Total ..	11	6	—	—

2. Cases in which defects were found:—Nil.

**PART VIII OF THE ACT
OUTWORK**

(Sections 133 and 134)

The return required under Part VIII of the Act is “Nil.”

